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Hi John,

As you know, Tiarco Chemical has been working diligently to comply with the HPV3 testing requirements for Sodium 3-Nitrobenzene Sulfonate, CAS 127-68-4. We have recently completed all the required testing and submitted the required final report.

Concurrently we have been investigating who the importers of this material are to the United States. We have always known there are a number of importers of this material but we had not sought their identity prior to this.

To identify these importers, we have purchased a subscription (not a trivial cost) to PIERS which allows us to search the public database of imported materials. By this means we initially identified three active importers of this material. They are:

SAM HPRP Chemicals Inc.
19055 Valley View Road,
Eden Prairie, MN 55346-3945

AllChem Industries
Industrial Chemical Division
6101 NW First Place
Gainesville, FL 32607

Netchem Inc.
19 Sage Court
Brantford, Ontario
Canada N3R 7T4

Sam HPRP and Netchem have avoided our requests to discuss cost sharing. AllChem initially began negotiations, but has since stopped communications with us.

My first question then is: How do we initiate the EPA arbitration called for in the regulations when parties are unable to develop a cost sharing procedure privately?

We have recently also become aware that Rit-Chem located at 1 Zeiss Drive; Suite 200; Thornwood, NY 10594 is also selling and possibly importing this material.

Question 2 is: Did any of these companies submit intent to test letters, or request for exemption letters?

Another concern we have is recently importations of this material have been appearing in the public database as only ORDER with no shipper, exporter, or consignee data indicated. On checking with our data provider, we were told that companies may request confidentiality of their customs data and thus can shield themselves from our legitimate inquiries to understand who is importing this material, and avoid cost sharing with us of the costs we incurred to comply with the HPV3 testing.

So my third question is: Is there any way you know of to obtain the confidential import information so we can pursue payment for the costs we incurred from these importers that are hiding behind this confidentiality? Is the EPA able to either compel these parties to negotiate with us in good faith, arbitrate the matter, or ban their importation of this material by these organizations?

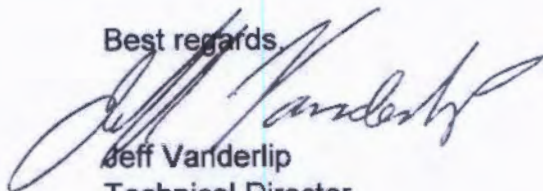
I know that any organization importing this material is required to submit to the EPA records indicating this activity (due to the HPV3 testing requirements).

My fourth question is: Is there any way we can obtain these records? Did SAM HPRP, AllChem, NetChem, or Rit-Chem submit these reports?

I understand that you may not be the appropriate person to answer these questions. In that case if you would be so kind as to forward this letter to the appropriate party, I would be indebted to you. Also, please consider this a request under the Freedom of Information Act for the above information.

I appreciate your help with this matter.

Best regards,



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